

RIVIERA UTILITIES INFORMING CUSTOMERS ABOUT WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Is your home always cold in the winter and hot in the summer? Are your utility bills higher than they should be? Do you live on a fixed income such as Social Security? Help may be on the way for those customers who qualify.

“Riviera Utilities has been receiving information from the Alabama Municipal Electric Association (AMEA) that indicates our state will receive \$127.3 million in stimulus funding which will include \$71.8 million in home weatherization funding for low-income families in Alabama and \$55.5 million for the state energy program. In this package, there can be an allowance of an average investment of up to \$6,500 per home in energy-efficiency upgrades. The program is available for families making up to 200 percent of the federal poverty level or about \$44,000 a year for a family of four. We support this effort and are going to do our best to inform our customers who may qualify for this benefit and help as many people in this part of the state that we can. It could help a number of our customers conserve energy and lower their utility billing costs,” stated Mike Dugger, General Manager for Riviera Utilities.

Check it out! You may be eligible for Free Weatherization Assistance funded by the U.S. Department of Energy and administered by the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs – Energy Division. If you are **Elderly**, **Disabled** or have a family with **Children** and your income qualifies, your house or mobile home could receive free energy conservation and efficiency work such as reducing air infiltration into the home, installing attic, floor, and/or high density wall insulation, sealing duct work, repairing HVAC systems and replacing incandescent light bulbs with highly efficient compact fluorescent light bulbs.

“I have called our local Community Action Agencies in Daphne and found out they will be receiving some funds from the economic stimulus bill and are seeking applicants for Weatherization Assistance. We want to help promote this program to any of our customers who might qualify. And, the sweetness of it all is that the assistance is free to qualifying homeowners,” stated David Horton, Riviera’s Superintendent of Public Affairs.

To find out if you qualify or for more information about the Free Weatherization Assistance Program, contact the local Community Action Agency in Daphne at 251-626-2646. Please read the other related articles in this magazine edition for more information about how you may qualify for Weatherization Assistance. Call the Community Action Agency now to find out if you qualify.